

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Satoshi KONDO et al. :
Serial No. NEW : **Attn: Application Branch**
Filed October 19, 2001 : **Attorney Docket No. 2001_1571A**

BLOCK DISTORTION DETECTION METHOD,
BLOCK DISTORTION DETECTION APPARATUS,
BLOCK DISTORTION REMOVAL METHOD, AND
BLOCK DISTORTION REMOVAL APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 7, 8, 10 and 19-22 as follows.

7. (Amended) A block distortion detection method as defined in Claim 5, wherein the reduction of the volume of processing is carried out by reducing the number of pixels to be used for detection of block distortion.

8. (Amended) A block distortion detection method as defined in Claim 5, wherein the reduction of the volume of processing is carried out by reducing the number of strength levels of block distortion to be detected.

10. (Amended) A block distortion removal method for removing the block distortion which is detected by the block distortion detection method according to Claim 2, wherein the

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